

NOTICE OF REFERENDUM
CITY OF EVANSVILLE & TOWN OF UNION
APRIL 1, 2008

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that at an election to be held in the several towns, villages, wards, and election districts of the State of Wisconsin, on Tuesday, April 1, 2008 the following proposed amendment to the Constitution of the State of Wisconsin, will be submitted to a vote of the people:

2007 ENROLLED JOINT RESOLUTION 26

To amend section 10 (1) (c) of article V of the constitution; **relating to:** prohibiting partial vetoes from creating new sentences (second consideration).

Whereas, the 2005 legislature in regular session considered a proposed amendment to the constitution in 2005 Senate Joint Resolution 33, which became 2005 Enrolled Joint Resolution 46, and agreed to it by a majority of the members elected to each of the 2 houses, which proposed amendment reads as follows:

Section 1. Section 10 (1) (c) of article V of the constitution is amended to read:

[Article V] Section 10 (1) (c) In approving an appropriation bill in part, the governor may not create a new word by rejecting individual letters in the words of the enrolled bill, and may not create a new sentence by combining parts of 2 or more sentences of the enrolled bill.

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the senate, the assembly concurring, That the foregoing proposed amendment to the constitution is agreed to by the 2007 legislature; and, be it further

Resolved, That the foregoing proposed amendment to the constitution be submitted to a vote of the people at the election to be held on the first Tuesday of April, 2008; and, be it further

Resolved, That the question concerning ratification of the foregoing proposed amendment to the constitution be stated on the ballot as follows:

Question 1: "Partial veto. Shall section 10 (1) (c) of article V of the constitution be amended to prohibit the governor, in exercising his or her partial veto authority, from creating a new sentence by combining parts of two or more sentences of the enrolled bill?"

The Governor currently has broad authority to veto any part of a bill passed by the Legislature that contains an appropriation of money, including, but not limited to, the state budget bill. At the present time, this partial veto power is limited in the text of the Constitution only to the extent of prohibiting the Governor from creating new words by eliminating individual letters in the words of the bill passed by the Legislature. Thus, this partial veto power allows the Governor to take parts of sentences in the bill passed by the Legislature and combine them to form new sentences that were not contained in the original bill.

A "yes" vote would place an additional limit on the Governor's power to veto parts of an appropriation bill by prohibiting the Governor from creating a new and different sentence by combining parts of two or more sentences as they are written in the bill passed by the Legislature.

A "no" vote would leave the Governor's partial veto power as it is, and continue to permit the Governor to create a new sentence by combining parts of several sentences in the bill passed by the legislature.

Judy L Walton
Clerk - City of Evansville

Regina Ylvisaker
Clerk – Town of Union